# Broome Br

## Student Center Project Approved!

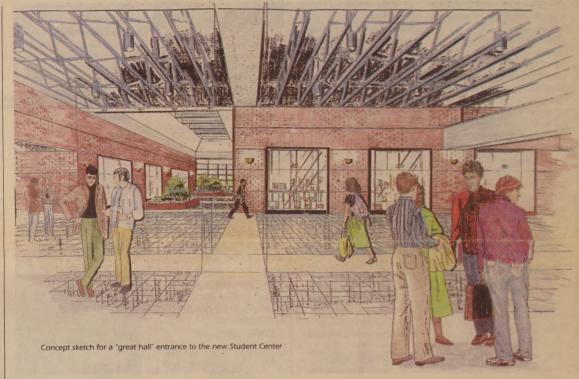
he important vote came on November 9, 1998. The County Legislature unanimously voted a 1999 capital budget to include funding for BCC's Student Center expansion and renovation project. The long-time dream of quality student life space, a campus ice rink, and improvements to the existing building would now become a reality.

The college's 1994 Master Plan showed two separate projects: a free standing ice rink on the far side of a reworked campus roadway, and a major expansion to the Student Center for a bookstore and student activities. Last year, State Senator (and BCC alumnus) Thomas Libous sought State funding for what would be a combination and modification of the two 1994 projects. The new single project was budgeted at \$9.6M.

As with all college capital projects, the Student Center project would require 50% of its funding to come from the State and the remaining 50% from the County budget.

Libous was successful in having New York's \$4.8M included in Governor Pataki's State budget.

At that point a variety of support groups began to champion the project. The BCC Student Government Association sponsored a petition drive and presented the County Legislature with over 1,000 signatures of



support. At a press conference, leaders of the college's Faculty Association, Alumni Association, the Southern Tier Hockey Association, and the Broome County High School Hockey Association all endorsed the project and urged their members to call or write their legislators.

County Executive (and BCC alumnus) Jeffrey Kraham

endorsed the project and included initial funding in his 1999 budget proposal.
Chairman of the Legislature Daniel Schofield was an enthusiastic supporter as was Finance Committee Chair William Wike. With their support, the college was hopeful that the November 9 vote for full funding would be positive.

And, it was — in a unanimous vote of approval.

### **Student Activities**

A major part of the new construction will be to provide much needed space for a new bookstore, student recreational areas, student club offices, student health services, student activities offices, and a foyer/lobby area that would allow for

various assembly functions.

This addition will be at the northeast corner of the existing building and will essentially "close in" the campus quad.

The need for more bookstore space has been an issue for many years at the college. The current location is in space once used as a staff cafeteria. The small size does

EXPANSION, cont. on pg. 12

or current resident

Organization Organization O.S. PAID

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Broome Community College P.O. Box 1017 Binghamton, NY 13902

## Students Have Positive **Expectations of BCC**

The typical students entering BCC in the fall of 1998 were recent high school graduates who made the College their firstchoice institution, believe that they will be happy at BCC, have supportive and influential family members, expect to have no transportation problems getting to the campus, and were never

This profile was created from the responses 1656 entering students gave to a "local items" questionnaire. Each fall, the college administers the ASSET Placement Test to determine appropriate English, Reading, and Mathematics courses for its new students. In addition to the test is a series of "local item" questions designed to give the college further information about student attitudes.

Here are the questions asked and the percentage responses for

- 1. Of the colleges that you applied to this year, which one of the following was your first choice to attend?
- 80% a. Broome Community College
- 4% b. Another two-year college
- 10% c. A public four-year college or university
- 5% d. A private four-year college or university
- 2% e. Other



New students line up at Orientation '98 tables to pick up more BCC infor-

- 2. Which one of the following best describes the main program, or track, that you were in during your last year or two in high school?
  - 15% a. Regents: including AP and/or Honors courses
  - 35% b. Regents: College Preparatory
  - 37% c. Local
  - 10% d. Occupational Studies (Business or Office Skills, Technical, BOCES)
  - 3% e. Tech-Prep applied academic courses
- 3. How concerned are you about your ability to finance your first year at BCC?
  - 28% a. Extremely
  - 23% b. Verv
  - 30% c. Somewhat
  - 10% d. Not too
  - 8% e. Not at all
- 4. What is your current marital status?
  - 86% a. Never married
  - 5% b. Separated or divorced
  - 0% c. Widowed
- 9% d. Married
- 5. Which of the following best describes your feeling about attending Broome Community
- 89% a. I think I will be as happy at BCC as I would at any other college
- 1% b. I think I would be happier at another twovear college
- 9% c. I think I would be happier at a four-year college
- 1% d. I don't really want to go to any college
- 6. Which of the following statements best describes the attitude of your family toward your attending college?
  - 77% a. Supportive encouraged me to go to the college of my choice
- 19% b. Supportive, but preferred I stay at home and attend BCC
- 1% c. Not very supportive but wanted me to go to BCC if I did go to college
- 3% d. Did not encourage me to go to college
- e. Opposed my attending college

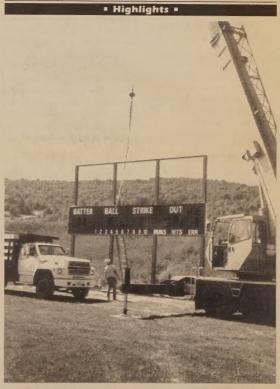


Students "read the walls" to figure out which books they need to buy.

- 7. Which of the following most influenced your decision to attend BCC
  - 25% a. Friends
  - 53% b. Family
  - 11% c. High school teacher/ counselor
  - d. TV, radio or printed material about BCC
  - e. Employer
- 8. How long has it been since your were in high school or college?
  - 64% a. Less than 12 months
  - 10% b. 1 to 2 years
  - 7% c. 2 to 4 years
  - 7% d. 4 to 10 years
  - 12% e. Over 10 years
- 9. If you had not decided to attend BCC you probably would have
  - 25% a. Gone to work
  - 6% b. Never gone to college
  - 23% c. Gone to another twoyear college
- 26% d. Gone to a four-year college
- 21% e. I really don't know
- 10. Which of the following best describes your situation with regard to getting back and forth to BCC for classes?
  - 79% a. Transportation will not be a problem for me
  - 19% b. Transportation could be a problem for me
  - 2% c. Transportation is a problem for me
- 11. What is the highest level of education your mother has received?
  - 2% a. 8th grade or less
  - b. Some high school (but not a graduate)
  - 36% c. Graduated from high school (or equivalency diploma)
- 5% d. Post-secondary school other than college

- 15% e. Some college
- 12% f. Associate's degree (two vear degree)
- g. Bachelor's degree (four year degree)
- 6% h. Education or training after the Bachelor's degree at a graduate or professional school
- 9% i. Don't know
- 12. In deciding to attend BCC, which factor was most important to you?
- a. Desire to be with friends
- 19% b. Affordable cost

- 22% c. Could work and study at the same time
- 10% d. Wanted to live in the
- 20% e. Easy transfer of credit to 4-year college
- 6% f. Needed training for a new job
- 12% g. Had courses or program I wanted
- h. Good chance of being admitted
- i. Inability to find a good iob
- j. Family wanted me to attend



### Batter Up... and the Scoreboard, too!

This spring the BCC baseball team will inaugurate their new field. The new scoreboard, provided by Pepsi-Cola, was carefully installed this fall. SPRING HOME GAMES BASEBALL SCHEDULE

Everyone's invited to come out to a home game on the new field this spring, located at the east end ("back") of the campus, behind the Campus Services

Friday, April 2, 2 p.m. - vs. Onondaga CC Sunday, April 11, 1 p.m. - vs. Fulton Montgomery CC Tuesday, April 13, 2 p.m. - vs. Herkimer CC\*

Saturday, April 17, 2 p.m. - vs. Niagara CC Tuesday, April 20, 2 p.m. - vs. Jefferson CC Sunday, April 25, Noon - vs. Clinton CC Thursday, April 29, 2 p.m. - vs. Finger Lakes CC Saturday, May 1, 1 p.m. - vs. Schenectady CC Sunday, May 2, 1 p.m. - vs. Hudson Valley CC

\*Official Field Dedication/Grand Opening Game

## Broome Community College

Binghamton, New York ...a comprehensive community college founded in 1946

Supervised by the State University of New York

JOHN W. RYAN. Chancellor

### Sponsored by the County of Broome

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## College Undergoes Self-Evaluation

Ann Sova, Professor of English, Middle States Coordinator

Every 10 years, Broome Community College, along with all other colleges accredited by the Commission for Higher Education, undertakes a selfstudy to evaluate its programs and services.

When the self-study is completed later this year, a team of evaluators from the Middle States Association of the Commission of Higher Education will visit BCC. after which they will make recommendations as to whether the college should be reaccredited for another 10 years. All areas of BCC are now involved in the self-study process. Because the college sees Service to Community as the central tenet of its mission, community involvement in the self-study is an important part of the assessment. BCC News readers can be part of the process by completing the survey in this issue and returning it within 2 weeks.

### Nature and Scope of **Self-Study**

Under the Middle States guidelines, colleges can do their self-studies in a variety of ways. The system BCC chose is to look at itself according to a theme. The theme, "Responding to a Changing Environment," directs attention to an examination of how well the college understands and addresses the needs of its constituents, and how that understanding is used to prepare for the future. The Middle States Association has identified a number of characteristics of excellence against which the college must measure itself.

In addition, the college has selected three special topics for in-depth investigation. Those topics, Service to Community, Alternative Learning Environments, and Changing Standards of Assessment, represent major emphases for the college for improving its educational offerings in the future.

Service to Community has been and continues to be the most important purpose of Broome Community College. "Community" is understood by the college to resemble a series of concentric circles, with the campus itself in the center, then

the immediate service area (Broome and surrounding counties). New York State, the nation, and finally the global community, BCC offers programs and services at all these levels. The college has always attempted to respond quickly to changes in the social and economic climate by developing new programs and updating facilities. College staff feel it is important to look at Service to Community more systematically and broadly, however. Given that the college cannot be everything to everybody, how should we determine goals and priorities, given the available resources? A focus on Service to Community as the framework for everything the college does will help make that determination.

Alternative Learning Environments is another Self-Study emphasis. In the last three years, technology-enhanced instruction has been a major thrust and has consumed a significant proportion of college resources. Faculty and students have access to near state-of-the-art computer facilities. BCC ranks second among New York State community colleges in the number of on-line courses offered. The concept of providing Alternative Learning Environments extends well beyond computer technology, however. Learning Communities, interdisciplinary courses. internships, independent study, team-taught courses, and other modes are being explored as well. The college feels it needs to clarify its understanding of this area, and answer some fundamental questions concerning priorities, access, and assessment. An anticipated increase in the demand for non-traditional and technology-enhanced modes of education in the future requires BCC to consider carefully where to focus its attention and expend its resources.

Assessment has become a central concern for all of higher education. Not only do all colleges face external mandates to prove that they are providing high-quality education, but BCC recognizes an internal desire for greater focus, coherence, and improvement of its programs as well. The college currently sends a great deal of data to SUNY and the State Education Department, as well as to program-specific accrediting agencies. The Self-Study will help all areas of the college to examine even more closely what they do in terms of student outcomes, and to identify

appropriate measures of effectiveness to help improve performance.

As a member of our community, you can have a voice in BCC's year-long self-evaluation. Just complete the survey...

## **Survey Questionnaire**

As part of our Middle States Reaccreditation Self-Study, BCC is soliciting the opinions of community members as to how well the college achieves its Mission and Goals. Please help in this effort by filling out the following questionnaire and returning it within 2 weeks to:

Jo Van Wely, Dean of Business, or Ann Sova, Professor of English,

Broome Community College, PO Box 1017, Binghamton, NY 13902.

### Please indicate to what degree you feel Broome **Community College** achieves the following goals:

1. BCC provides open access to those who can benefit from its programs and services.

- Excellently
- Very well
- Moderately well
- Not very well

2. BCC provides university parallel transfer programs for students aspiring to baccalaureate degrees and professions.

- Excellently
- Very well
- Moderately well
- Not very well

3. BCC provides occupational and technical degree and certificate programs for students aspiring to careers in business, health, technology, and human

- services Excellently
- Very well
- Moderately well
- Not very well

4. BCC provides General Education to broaden and deepen students' intellectual, moral, civic, and social competence for effective participation in the world community.

- Excellently
- Very well
- Moderately well
- Not very well

5. BCC provides community and continuing education and training to serve the needs and interests of individuals, employers, and agencies.

- Excellently
- Very well
- Moderately well Not very well

6. BCC provides career advising, skills and knowledge assessment, and related support services to help students reach their full potential.

- Excellently
- Very well
- Moderately well
- Not very well
- Poorly

7. BCC provides a community of free inquiry and educational achievement wherein each member is treated respectfully

- Excellently
- Very well Moderately well
- Not very well
- Poorty

8. BCC provides a broad range of educational, social, athletic, and recreational activities to foster students' personal development, community involvement, and leadership skills

- Excellently
- Very well
- Moderately well Not very well
- Poorty

Thank you for your participation in this survey. Please indicate your relationship to BCC bu checking all that apply:

- ☐ Current BCC student
- BCC graduate
- Attended BCC
- Family member of a current or former BCC student

If you or a family member have attended BCC, to what degree did the college help you attain your goals?

- Excellently
- Very well Moderately well
- Not very well
- ☐ Pooriv

Please feel free to attach comments to your questionnaire. As we continually strive to improve our service to our community, we are very interested in your opinions and the reasons for them.

## Alice McNeely, Director, Teaching Resource Center

In the fall of 1997, BCC received the Request for Proposals (RFP) for the United States Information Agency's (USIA) 1998 grant competition. The USIA's Office of Citizen Exchanges was seeking proposals in several interesting categories, including Women's Leadership Training and Distance Learning in the field of Business Management. Business professor Anne Blakeslee and I applied for the Women's Leadership Training grant, and Tom DeCelle, also a BCC Business professor, applied for the Distance Learning grant. Jo Van Wely, Dean of the Business Division, agreed to be project director for both. The target areas for the Women's Leadership Training grants were Russia, Ukraine, Belarus, and Moldova. Because of BCC's contacts through prior Community Connection grants and the Borovichi Sister City Project, Russia seemed like the logical choice. Although it is unusual for a college to receive two of the highly competitive grants, both of BCC's proposals were accepted.

The USIA was looking for proposals that offered leadership training skills to women active in their own communities, with a focus on how to identify priorities, organize and form coalitions, and influence decision makers about issues and problems affecting the wellbeing of people in local communities. We asked for \$79,000 to work with ten Russian women, several from each of three communities in the Novgorod region - Novgorod. Borovichi and Pestova (comparable to Albany, Binghamton, and Whitney Point.). The women from each of these three communities formed teams; in turn. these teams would plan and execute a leadership program for women in their own communities. We proposed that an American team go to Russian to train the ten Russian women. At the end of this training, the Russian teams would meet to plan programs for their own communities. Several months later, the Russian women would come to the U.S. to receive further training and cultural orientation, and upon returning

## BCC Women Teach Leadership to Russian Women

## A personal story of one of BCC's grant programs

home they would continue working on their local projects. Then a small American team would go to Russia to assist with and evaluate the Russian programs.

Marina Starshova from the American Russian College of Commerce in Borovichi helped us recruit Russian women

## Normally the project managers would assign training topics to each team member — but our team took on curriculum development as a collaborative effort

to participate in the grant. Conveniently in Russia on a Community Connection grant, Anne Blakeslee met and interviewed the women to determine their training needs. The women involved included physician Nina Bagayeva, social worker Valentina Markusheva, head of public works Nadezhda Trofimova. college administrator Marina Starshova, student Maria (Masha) Grigorev'eva, department store marketing manager Svetlana Gruzdeva, journalist Marina Ovcharova, dean Ludmila Seruhiina and teachers Tatiana Sidorova and Lilia Oynas. While Anne interviewed in Russia, we invited women here, from both the BCC community and the community at large, to join us on the project. Then we surveyed the group's collective skills. Studying the needs of the Russian women. and looking at the training skills our group of American women offered, we began planning the training program. Normally the project managers of a program like this would assign training topics to each team member but our team took on curriculum development as a collaborative effort, meeting throughout the spring and summer. As a result, each team member understood the entire training program and how her part fit into the whole.

## Communications

One of the more challenging

aspects of the grant was fostering communications between two groups of women who didn't speak each other's languages.

Of the Russians, Masha was fluent in English, Marina spoke quite a bit, and the others didn't speak any English. On our side, Victoria and Tina could communicate in Russian, but the other nine Americans could not; that left 17 women who could not communicate with one another. This kept the bilingual members of our group busy! Although it added an expense to our grant, we had all of our training materials translated into Russian.

## The Adventure Begins in St. Petersburg

In early September, with the ruble falling, nine American team members left for Russia. The team consisted of BCC's Sandra Balzhiser, Victoria Belenkaya, Anne Blakeslee, Kathleen Habel, Alice McNeely, Lynda Spickard, and Helen Veres, and Binghamtonians Judith Peckham (Hoyt Foundation, BCC Board of Trustees) and Peg Sever (Broome County Chamber). We were also joined by two volunteers from Massachusetts who paid their own way -- Valentina Cass and Robin Brown.

We visited St. Petersburg, Novgorod, Borovichi, Pestova. Valdai, and Moscow, staying in "Russian" hotels. There are "American" hotels that cost more, but we wanted the limited grant dollars to go for the program — so we opted for a more rustic and "Ruski" experience. (When our Russian participants came to the USA. they stayed in our homes, but that was not an option in Russia. Most Russians — including well educated, employed, professional people - live in small apartments, often with several generations of relatives.)

After a very long wait for our ride at the airport, our tour guide and driver arrived with a 12-passenger van and very limited cargo space — so 13 people, luggage, and training materials piled into the van. When we reached our hotel we must have

looked rather like one of those amazing circus cars that can hold an infinite number of clowns. Climbing many steps to the entrance of the Russ Hotel, in St. Petersburg (no ramps or handicap access), we found a large lobby with worn and shabby furniture and a deteriorating tile floor. A bank of elevators ("lifts") were off the lobby; we were relieved to discover that some of them worked. They were small (2.5'x4') and each could hold only one person with luggage. We took turns taking the luggage up to our rooms — there were no luggage carts, bellhops or concierge. Upon exiting the lifts. we entered long dark hallways with outdoor carpeting that crackled underfoot. The hotel was probably built in the '50s and hadn't been renovated since. The rooms featured dirty spotted beige wallpaper, mismatched fixtures, worn blankets, and an unmistakably unpleasant odor emanating from the bathrooms. We opened the windows (no

## St. Petersburg has some beautiful buildings and monuments, but the extent of the disrepair surprised us all.

screens) and reunited for dinner on the floor below. At dinner we all bought bottled water to take back to the rooms for drinking and brushing teeth.

We soon realized that we had made a big mistake in airing out our rooms. St. Petersburg is built on a swamp, and, although it was September, there were still mosquitoes — and they had all gotten the word that there was fresh American blood to be had. Many of us sported bright red welts for the next two weeks. St. Petersburg has some beautiful buildings and monuments, but the extent of the disrepair surprised us all.

As American visitors and honored guests, we had plenty to eat — too much, in fact! By American standards, the meals



Alice McNeely and Lynda Spickard do their part for the Russian economy. The visitors buy souvenirs in Moscow from enterprising Russians (US dollars accepted)

were quite large. We felt guilty having so much food, knowing that food prices had become prohibitive to many. Fortunately, most Russians have gardens and grow much of their own food. We ate a lot of food from the local harvest. There were generally no choices — they prepared what was available and we gratefully. and I hope graciously, accepted it. What was lacking in variety was compensated for in presentation and quantity. Their diet was much healthier than ours - no junk food, snacks, or desserts. With two or three servings of cabbage salad and cucumbers and tomato each day, we had no trouble meeting the American "strive for five" nutritional recommendations!

## **Bound for Novgorod**

After two sleepless "buggy" nights, we crammed ourselves, and our luggage back into the bus and left for Novgorod. The drive took about four hours and we got our first glimpse of Russian rural life — and of the Russian highway infrastructure.

Novgorod is a small, beautiful, and relatively prosperous city, with a Kremlin, or citadel, containing the original walled city, and many ancient cathedrals. We were relieved to find no mosquitoes, and a hotel with pleasant quarters.

Despite its relative prosperity, while touring the city with the Novgorodian women we witnessed a scene that will forever be etched in our minds. On the bridge to the Kremlin we saw an elderly woman approach a young woman carrying shopping bags

to ask for some food. The young woman explained that the food was for her children, and walked away. After she had gone a few yards, she changed her mind and came back to the old woman, giving her some food. Then she angrily complained that this shouldn't be happening — that the old woman had worked hard her whole life and shouldn't have to beg for food, and that she herself shouldn't have to choose between feeding the old woman and feeding her children.

### On to Binghamton's Sister City

We moved on to Borovichi. where we spent five days and were joined by BCC's President Dellow. We stayed at the only hotel in town, across the street from the former KGB headquarters. Each morning we went to the college for breakfast and a full day of training. Victoria was our lead translator and we were heavily dependent on her skills. 24 hours a day. When our USIA representative came to observe and evaluate our grant program, she commented on Victoria's excellence as translator. Indeed, between translating our documents and attending many planning meetings, Victoria was well versed in the grant. She felt passionately about our goals, as well, and her enthusiasm came through in her work.

Our evenings were very busy; we visited the homes of the Russian women and attended numerous receptions. The Russians really know how to appreciate life's simple pleasures and enjoy the company of their friends. It was often 10 o'clock at night before we got back to our hotel and had an opportunity to evaluate the day's session and prepare for the next.

## Pestova and Valdai

From Borovichi, we visited Pestova for a day of training, and then we were on to Valdai for the final two days. Valdai is a government resort, formerly owned by the communist party; it is situated on a lake in the middle of the woods. The accommodations were much like an American hotel. However, the bureaucracy was very Russian—it took us 2 hours to check in! We finished our training and, after a tearful goodbye, we packed into the van again. This time BCC's

Tom DeCelle and Nathan Walz, who were in Russia on the Distance Learning Grant, had arrived with another van, so we didn't need to sit on our luggage for the 7-hour drive to Moscow!

## Moscow: Another World

There is one road connecting St. Petersburg and Moscow - it has 3 lanes, one for each direction, and one middle lane for passing: there are no yellow lines. If we had had seat belts, we would certainly have used them; as it was, we were dependent upon prayer and luck. There were no rest stops or places to eat. The road was peppered with small government-issued Russian houses. We often saw lines of drying fish strewn near the road, and farmers with plow horses. The Russia we had seen up to that point was poor, with crumbling buildings and many things in disrepair. If you are

## In addition to the Kremlin and many lovely old buildings, Moscow sports department stores and even an underground mall.

Russian and fortunate enough to own a car, you hope it won't get damaged, because replacement parts are not available. The same is true for equipment and machinery used for agriculture, business, and industry. It was hard to believe that this was the country that launched Sputnik and Mir — the country I had grown up fearing.

However, this Russia disappeared as soon as we reached the outskirts of Moscow. Suddenly the 3-lane road became a 4-lane highway, with lots of traffic. The hotel we stayed in had 6,000 rooms, with working plumbing and matching fixtures. The city was beautiful, clean, and in good repair. In addition to the Kremlin and many lovely old buildings, Moscow also sports department stores and even an underground mall, complete with a food court. Walking on Red Square, looking at the St. Basil's Cathedral, took my breath away. I simply could not believe I was there.

## Home Again

We returned home grateful for our own prosperity. We had

scarcely had a chance to recuperate from the jet lag when it was time to start planning for the Russian women's November visit. They staved in the homes of American team members, and we tried to show them the same hospitality they had shown us. introducing them to covered dish suppers, pizza, line dancing, and even fixing them Thanksgiving dinner with all the trimmings. In addition to two full weeks of training, they got to see New York City, Niagara Falls, and Washington, D.C. We loved showing them our country, and found it very hard to say goodbye. Most of our team realized that they would probably never see these women again. Despite the language barrier we had grown quite close — had each been dependent upon the other in a strange land, had laughed and cried together.

In the spring of 1999, a small team will return to Novgorod, Borovichi and Pestova to observe the local projects and evaluate the grant program. This time Anne and I will go back, joined by Myrna Webb and perhaps one other member of the U.S. planning team.

When I returned from Russia. people asked me if I had a good time. The answer is not a simple one. There were times when we were apprehensive, and times when we were uncomfortable. but most of the time we felt lucky to have the opportunity to get to know these extraordinary women. It was a wonderful adventure. We grew to appreciate each others' cultures as well as our own. We made friends with "the enemy." I think I can speak for all the participants, both U.S. and Russian, when I say that this grant has been both an enlightening and awesome experience. The End -

## or the Beginning?

The new RFP arrived before we had had even an opportunity to recuperate from the Russian visit. Too tired to even think about writing another grant proposal, we asked the American team what they thought. As a result of their overwhelmingly positive response we are applying for a continuation of the grant —after all, September in Novgorod is quite lovely.

## New VP at the helm: Keith Cotroneo

ast July, Broome Community College identified Dr. Keith Cotroneo as its new Vice President for Academic Affairs. Dr. Cotroneo replaces interim Vice President, Dr. Murray Block and former Vice President, Dr. Bryan Blanchard.

Prior to coming to Broome, Dr. Cotroneo was the Dean of Instruction at Treasure Valley Community College in Ontario, Oregon.



Previously, he held the position of Associate Dean and Assistant to the President at Hagerstown Junior College. Dr. Cotroneo has held several other positions including Director of Staff and Program Development at Florida Community College, Director of Career Development at Middle Georgia College, Director for American College Testing (ACT) SE Region.

Keith Cotroneo received his

Doctorate of Education, Specialist Certification in Education, and Master's degree in Education, all from the University of Georgia. His Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration is from Auburn University. He has extensive teaching experience at both the community college and university levels. An impressive array of scholarly publications includes topics such as teaching and learning styles, time management, career development and total quality management.

Vice President Cotroneo is especially noted for his work in quality improvement process and for successful strategic planning. While employed at Treasure Valley Community College, he implemented an aggressive recruitment and retention plan that resulted in a very significant enrollment increase. For these efforts, the college was awarded the Oregon Governor's Quality Commitment award. His leadership qualities will certainly be an asset to BCC, as well as his extensive experience in enrollment management, staff development and improvement training.

"I'm particularly excited about being at BCC, a college with a rich history and great public acceptance," Cotroneo said. "So far it's been a good learning experience with some very talented people and a truly dedicated faculty. I hope my own contributions will continue to enhance this excellent college."

Cotroneo grew up in the Rochester area and is a graduate of East Rochester High School, where he was both a football player and wrestler. His athletic accomplishments include achievement of two-time Southeastern Conference Wrestling Champion and All County Football team. Subsequently, he coached wrestling at East Rochester High School and then at the University of Georgia. His current routine includes working out and running to stay physically fit.

Living in the East, is a preference for the Cotroneos because they are closer to their relatives in Rochester. Cotroneo, his wife Barb, and their two daughters Tessa, 9 and Gracie, 4, are enjoying living in their home in Endwell. In the six months they have been here, the Cotroneos have already toured much of the local area and attended many of the activities and festivities unique to Broome County.

## **ANOTHER BANNER YEAR FOR FOUNDATION**

The Result: A Big Increase in Student Aid — with More on the Way! Judy U. Siggins, Ph.D., Executive Director, BCC Foundation

Thanks to alumni and other generous supporters, increased Annual Fund contributions and endowment gifts have produced a dramatic increase in Foundation support of students in 1998-99. The Foundation is working hard to increase this further. While BCC's tuition is the third lowest in New York State, the percentage of students needing financial aid has nearly doubled in the past five years, and tuition has almost doubled in ten years. More need- and merit-based aid is very important for BCC students, and private support is playing a bigger role in closing the financial gap for students with limited resources.

Here are some highlights: Need-based grants: Established by the bequest of the late BHS guidance counselor, The Erma Prentice Fund made possible 11 new \$1,000 need-based awards for Binghamton High School students coming to BCC this year. Next year, that number will double. The new Second Chance Scholarship Program, begun with a grant from the Mastrangelo-Arnold Foundation of Schenectady, provides up to \$3,000 per year to highly-motivated, academically and economically disadvantaged students. Grants encourage and reward achievement, with cash awards depending on current semester grades and credit hours completed. Over 70 deserving students applied for just five awards. The Foundation will be soliciting additional community support to expand the program. If you are interested in sponsoring a Second Chance scholar, call the Foundation at 607 778-5182. Recently initiated endowments by community friends J. Donald Ahearn and Mr. and Mrs. Charles G. Brink (former Foundation Board member) as well as significant additional gifts to existing funds by many special friends will mean several new grants in aid this year and increased support to needy students. Local foundation support is also on the increase. The Truman Foundation of Owego has added five more scholarships this year, and the Kresge Foundation of Broome County has added two more grants this year, and another eight for next year. Also new this year are two special American Legion Post #1645 scholarships to non-traditional students in Business.

Merit-based awards: In conjunction with the opening of our new Decker Health Science Center, The Decker Foundation has increased and broadened its annual scholarship support to ten Decker Health Science scholarships, including a special \$1,400 award to the top health science student. The Presidential Scholarship program has also been expanded. This year, through the generosity of Jack Sherman Toyota and BCC alumnus James Corey, a \$1,000 Presidential Scholarship has been awarded to the returning student deemed most outstanding. Increased gifts from Jack Sherman Toyota will mean Presidential scholarships for two returning students next year Scholarships for top students in the Honors Program were increased this year by 50 percent through increased gifts by the program's anonymous donor. Other new 1999 merit awards made possible by Annual Fund contributions were in Civil Technology, Communication and Media Arts, Criminal Justice, and Engineering Science. Even more good news is ahead, with new special awards established for international students (see article this page). New endowed scholarships include The Marie Kalafur "Green Street" Scholarship (\$1,000 award to a Binghamton High School student with a 3.5 average and a Regents Diploma ), the Floyd P. (ET '57) and Constance Kintner Fund, and the Robert G. (ET '51) and Ruth O'Connor Fund (both will recognize excellence in the TEC area starting next year).

With your gift of any size you can help the Foundation help even more students and, by extension, benefit the whole community. If you can make a gift of \$500 or more, you can start an annual scholarship. If you can make a very generous gift of \$10,000 (over five years) you can start an endowment for a perpetual scholarship paying out \$500 annually. Every single gift helps. If you haven't made a gift to the annual fund yet, there's still time! Please write or call us at PO Box 1017, Binghamton, NY 13902, or 607 778-5182.

## NEW AWARDS FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS!

Judy U. Siggins, Ph.D.

International students have been enrolling at BCC in increasing numbers since 1971, due to our highly respected international education program. Over one hundred students from 25 to 30 countries attend BCC annually; they come from as far away as Japan or as close as Canada. By sharing their home cultures and experiences, they add an important dimension to the campus and to the community. International students not only enrich our daily experience but also help us understand the diverse cultures making up our global community.

Alan Bennett (Counselor) and Rebecca Bennett (Professor of English) have been BCC faculty members since 1971, when the international population consisted of two students from Hong Kong. Alan took on the role of International Student Advisor in 1972, and has worked with literally hundreds of international students over the years. Rebecca has taught many of these same students in her composition and literature classes.

The Bennetts have traveled the world visiting former BCC students in countries such as Hong Kong, Malaysia. Japan, Kuwait, France, Sweden, and The Netherlands. They are aware, first-hand, of the challenges that many of our students face in adjusting to life in a new culture, far from home. International students are not

eligible for the various forms of financial aid or emergency reserves available to U.S. citizens and N.Y.S. residents. Recognizing that carefully budgeted dollars from home don't always go as far as students and families expect them to, Alan and Rebecca have made generous personal contributions to the BCC Foundation to initiate a new scholarship fund for international students. The Foundation is proud to announce this new International Student Awards Program. Deadline for the first round of awards is March 1, 1999. The awards will range from \$100 to \$500 per semester, depending on circumstances and on the number of applications received.

The BCC Foundation encourages support from all members of the campus community, and would like to extend a special invitation to international alumni to give something back to the institution that provided a quality education and valuable social and cultural experience for them. Contributions in any amount Ichecks in U.S. currency, please) can be made payable to the BCC Foundation -International Student Awards Program and mailed to BCC Foundation, P.O. Box 1017. Binghamton, NY 13902 USA. For information, contact Alan Bennett 607 778-5210 or Dr. Judy Siggins 607 778-5182, or write them at BCC, P.O. Box 1017, Binghamton, NY 13902. ■

## PEOPLE HELPING PEOPLE ACHIEVE SUCCESS

Lee Ann Simonis, BM '84

The BCC Foundation will soon celebrate its 34th Anniversaryl The Foundation's mission is to raise private dollars to aid students and faculty and to help meet other College needs where public funds are either insufficient or unavailable. The Foundation's continued success is a reflection of a great community: of people who believe in BCC and make it a priority in their charitable giving; and of a talented, committed Board of Directors and a loyal, hard working community volunteer corps. Over 100 community volunteers assist the Foundation and fourteen faculty and staff serve on a campus campaign steering committee.

In 1998, the Foundation proudly elected to the Board of Directors: Terrance Davis, Insurance Agent,

Ernstrom & Heicheman; Beverly Majka, President, Mechanical Specialties Co.; Mark O'Neil. President/CEO, UHS, Inc.; Gerald Putman (ET70), Sr. Vice-President. NYSEG; Lawrence Schorr, CEO, Empire Plastics: and Martha Steffens, Executive Editor, Press & Sun Bulletin. They bring with them expertise, knowledge of the community, and the commitment to advance the Foundation's mission. There are now seven Foundation Board members who are also alumni. Besides Gerald Putman, they include: Betty Casey (BT '77), James Corey (BT '65), Alex DePersis (LA '68), Mary Jayne Westbrook (MO '50), Marc Newman (BM '82) and the current Board President, Floyd Kintner (ET '57). We were also fortunate to have sixteen new Foundation

members from the community join our fundraising efforts this past September: Andrea Akel, Ronald J. Bacon, Michelle Berry, Marvin A. Cohen, Daniel Conn, Richard D'Attilio, Robert Hankey, Richard Hinkley, Gail Kreppel, Robert E. Martin (ES '68), Donna McCue, Kenneth H. Miller, Jill S. Mirabito, David Opp, Diane Reineke (ES '80), Lynda Reino, and Robert W. Smith III. Both Board and Foundation members play critical roles in the Annual Fund Campaign.

Two dedicated volunteers are leading the Community Friend and Corporate segments of our 1998-99 Campaign: Hidy Ochiai, owner of Hidy Ochiai Karate in Vestal, is the Community Friend Campaign Chair. Mr. Ochiai has strong ties to the College and the community. As a past BCC faculty member, Mr.

Ochiai established the nation's first karate program as part of the physical education curriculum in 1969. An active member of the BCC Foundation's Board of Directors, he sees the College as a valuable resource in our community. Nancy Phillips, Marketing Manager for the Oakdale Mall, well known for her many community activities, serves as this year's Corporate Campaign Chair, Ms. Phillips is also a Foundation Board member and understands how important the relationship between the College and business is for the region's economy.

All of our volunteers realize the importance of BCC in our community, and the key role the BCC Foundation continues to play in helping our students: from those who excel academically, and thrive on the special recognition they receive, to those who need financial support. Foundation

grants-in-aid and merit scholarships ranging from \$200 to \$2,000 can alleviate students' financial burdens. For many at BCC, a college education might not be possible without the financial support from the BCC Foundation.

Last year was another recordbreaking year for the Foundation, with overall revenues exceeding \$2 million for the first time. The Annual Fund set a new high at nearly \$337,000 and we are slightly ahead of last year's record pace. With your help, we are sure to surpass last year's contributions. But it's not setting records - it's helping students that really counts! When you receive a letter or a telephone call from a BCC student or a volunteer, please consider making a gift. Any amount will help! College education continues to be the very best investment that people make in their lives. Together we can build a brighter futurel

## Alumnus Jay Abbey: One Success Story

Stephen Bernath, Alumni Affairs Director

Proome Community College Alumnus Jay Abbey (Business '74) has become one of Broome County's most successful entrepreneurs. Abbey, founder of Binghamton Precast and Supply, has developed a successful and profitable business providing precast concrete molds to contractors in the construction industry.

Abbey entered BCC a reluctant student who was more inclined



Jay Abbey, Business '74

to jump right into the family business after high school than to further his education. At the behest of his parents, Abbey enrolled in BCC's business curriculum. Abbey now concedes that the business background was very helpful, though much of what he learned back then needs to be updated. "Business, technology, and our industry as a whole has changed so much that what I studied can't help but be antiquated."

Upon graduation Abbey went to work with his father, who founded Binghamton Burial Vault Company. Abbey learned from his father the rudiments of the concrete business and, as he put it, "good business values." After a few years Abbey had visions of starting his own company, one that took advantage of the growing pre-cast industry. In 1977 Binghamton Precast and Supply was born. The timing was impeccable and Abbey's business instincts and work ethic paid off quickly. By the early '80s PreCast had

ABBEY, continued on pg. 10

## Libous and Warner Hire the best: BCC grads

If "it's all political" as the saying goes, at least BCC is a part of the game.

BCC Alumnus Senator Thomas Libous employs Liberal Arts '75 grad Mike Meade, Paralegal '87 grad Mary Lee, Liberal Arts '95 R.J. Barber, and Tina Waffle, who is still working on her degree from BCC.

Also recognizing talent when he sees it is State Assemblyman Robert Warner (a long-time fan of BCC since his days as County Legislator). Warner employs Business Administration '93 grad Don Petrie.

Meade, the most senior and experienced of the BCC governmental contingency, is stationed out of Albany and works closely with Senator Libous, particularly in the area of mental health. Meade's early exposure to politics came while working as a radio reporter for WMRV and WSKC. "I enjoyed it but it was then I decided that I would much rather be a participant rather than an observer." In 1989 he became the Chief of Staff for former Assemblyman Richard Miller and he began to interact in wider and wider political circles. Meade is now heavily involved in writing legislation as the Director of Mental Health and Developmental Disabilities Committee. He has served as the director on several committees Senator Libous has chaired, including the Alcohol and Drub Abuse Committee.

Meade has a genuine fondness for his experience at BCC. "The quality education gave me a very solid base for all that I have had to encounter over the years. Being a life-long native, I have always had a special affection for the Binghamton area, but starting at BCC furthered my knowledge and appreciation for the people of Broome County, which in retrospect has turned out to be beneficial given my various capacities over the years." His most cherished memory of school is not of BCC's Front Street campus, but of his part in Angelo Zuccolo's International Drama Company, which performed plays in Norway, Denmark, and Sweden. "It was a great deal of fun. And I got a taste of what fundraising was all about because we had to raise all our own money for that trip!"

Meade finds great satisfaction in working with Libous. "I am proud because he has done great things for the area." He cites Libous's ability to bring jobs to the area by courting businesses such as Glendale Technologies, Telespectrum, and QSCinet. He has also raised substantial money to maintain and refurbish Binghamton's psychiatric center, continually attempting to find new and innovative uses for the facility.



The Libous/BCC Team in action — L. to R.: Mary Lee, Senator Libous, Tina Waffle, and R.J. Barber.

Joining Meade on Libous's staff and stationed in Binghamton are Mary Lee, R.J. Barber, and Tina Waffle. Lee, who has been with Libous from the outset, began her political career after many years in law. She met Libous on "a good old fashioned interview" when he was first elected. She now works with him on a daily basis as an administrative assistant and is in charge of scheduling all his appointments.

What is it like being responsible for the daily activities of the most influential politician in Broome County? "Well, there is never a dull moment," she admits. "Everyday you are dealing with something new. That is the fun of it." Having been in the Binghamton office since its inception, Lee offers a unique perspective. "It's amazing how much has happened over the last ten years. So many things he talked about have come to fruition." Libous' increased influence makes the office days more hectic and involved than ever and his close relationship with Governor Pataki causes the phone to ring in ways it never did while Mario Cuomo was in office. "He is still incredibly energetic and enthusiastic about his job. He is as genuine and down to earth as the day I met him. I think he wishes he had more time to spend with his

HIRE THE BEST, continued on pg. 9

## **ALUMNI ON THE MOVE**

### 1960s

Wayne Kenner, '62, is in his 29th year as the men's basketball coach at Corning Community College notched his 500 career victory. For this milestone he was recently featured in Sports Illustrated's 'Faces in the Crowd' section. While at BCC, Kenner played two seasons for Coach Dick Baldwin.

Anita L. Penoyer, '66, recently changed positions. She is now the project manager for Community Dentistry Outreach Programs for the University of Rochester Eastman Dental Center. Anita received her B.S. from Regents College, and has done graduate work at St. Bonaventure.

### 1970s

William Merwarth, '74, was recently elected to the position of District 1 Director of the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE). The position is one of 21 District Directors who make up ASCE's governing Board of Direction. Bill will represent over 11,000 ASCE members residing in New York, New Jersey, Quebec, and Puerto Rico. Bill has been a member of ASCE since 1978, and has held a number of offices in the organization. His term as

District 1 Director begins in October 1998 at ASCE's National Convention and lasts for three years. Bill is a Senior Project Engineer with the Binghamton, NY-based firm of McFarland-Johnson, Inc. and lives in Greene, NY

Gerardo Tagliaferri, '75, received the 1997 "James E. Allen Award for Outstanding Service to the Cause of Education and Leadership at the Secondary Level" which was presented by the School Administrators Association of New York State.

### 1980s

Marilyn A. Andres, '86, has been named a trainer for the Electronic Commerce Resource Center at the University of Scranton. Marilyn is also owner of Andres Web Services, a full service website development company. She earned her BS degree in 1990 at Binghamton University.

Thomas K. Disch, '86, was recently promoted to Associate Director of Admissions at Franklin Pierce College, Rindge, New Hampshire. He also coordinates recruiting for the college's ice hockey team. Tom and his wife Kellye are the proud parents of Thomas Andrew, born March. 1998.

Colleen A. McCoy-Hooker, '89, received her B.S. in Nursing from SUNY-HSC at Syracuse University. Colleen is working at Crouse Irving Memorial Hospital in Syracuse and has just transferred for Acute Hemodialysis to Labor and Delivery. She lives with her husband William and three children, Alex, Thomas, and Trea.

### 1990s

**Kimberly Cornell, '96,** is a May 1998 graduate of SUNY Cortland with a B.S. in Elementary Education and is now teaching fifth grade at SpencerVanEtten Central Schools. She is currently working on her Master's in Elementary Reading at SUNY- Cortland.

Todd C. Berg, '94, graduated from Coastal Carolina University and has been promoted to manager of Equity One Mortgage Company in Georgetown, S.C. He is married to the former Marti DiMaio of Myrtle Beach.

Daniel Utter, '97, has been employed in the law offices of Chernin & Gold in Binghamton since January of 1998.

f you have neu	os – marr	iage, promotion,	achievement, etc	1
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Degree

ree:

Send to: Stephen Bernath, Director, Alumni Affairs Broome Community College, PO Box 1017, Binghamton, NY 13902 607 778-5006 • FAX 607 778-5310 • bernath\_s@sunybroome.edu

## International Students Stay In Touch

Ver the years, hundreds of international students from dozens of countries have come to BCC for their education.

This year, for example, 87 students from 28 countries are enrolled at the College, including 19 from Japan, 8 from Honduras, and 4 from Korea.

One of the constants for these students has been the advice and counsel of their BCC International Students Counselor, Alan Bennett. Even after these students return to their home countries, they often write to Alan to keep in touch with their American experience.

Here is a small sample of email Alan received in December 1998: From Roslan Abd Rahman...

You will not remember me but I was one of the BCC students from 1981-1983. I just got your address from Yusof another former student. It is very nice to "talk" to you again after so manu years. Still remember that first chilly night we arrived at BCC campus direct from Malaysia. You and your staff were very helpful. Binghamton is such a nice and beautiful place. Hopefully some day I can revisit again. Things are not so good on

this side of the world at the moment. Hopefully things will improve. We, all the former BCC students in Malaysia are still keeping in touch with each other. When we meet Binghamton is surely one of the subject. From Sander Anten...

...I learned a lot at BCC, Mu English improved enormously and for the first time in mu life I had classes in psychology and philosophy. The tennis team I was playing in was a very high level and the resources that the college put into the team were unbelieveable for Dutch standards. Right now, six years later, I'm almost a doctor of medicine at the Amsterdam Medical Center (AMC); one of the world's top medical research and treatment centers. The time I spent at BCC was not spent on medical theories or clinical practice, but what I learned there has turned out to be as precious to me as what I learned back in Amsterdam. Still now when I think back about that year I feel the freedom that I experienced there and I remember how it enabled me to really find my way and make a thorough decision about what to do when I'd come

back to the Netherlands. One of the most important things at that moment was that there were many people, teachers as well as the foreign student adviser, that took you serious and very personal. Not even one moment I even had the slightest feeling just to be another student or "a face in the crowd." My experiences at BCC are very positive and I'd recommend international students from all over the world to seriously consider going there if they'd ever have the opportunity to study in the U.S.

Got the email address from my colleague Yusof Rosil Yahya. I was also one of the Malausian students under your care back in '81-'82. Went to Clarkson College of Tech. and back to Malausia in 1984. So, how have you been doing? As for myself, I've been with Tenaga Nasional Berhad for the last 14 years and presently the Risk Manager in the company. (There were 14 of TNB

scholars back then.) 2 of our

friends did not complete the

study but nevertheless they are

From Anuar Abdul Shukor...

remember Mr. Biegen and the other bearded guy (cannot recall his name now). Biegen was teaching us physics and the bearded one was on Math. They are still our favorites beside yourself, of course. If they are still around, send them our regards. Really missed the good old time and the nice memories in BCC. They must be really old now. OK bye for now and before I forget, I wish you a very merry Christmas. Is it still snowing in Binghamton?"

sors that taught us in BCC? I still



Last fall the international students from Central America and the Caribbean held a dinner dance to celebrate their various national cultures. The celebrants included (I. to r.) Leonarda Aquino, Elena Gomez, Awilda Rosario, Leticia Ixcaquic, Yeni Escobar, and Iris Monterroso

## Supplemental Instruction: Strategy for Student Success

Rebecca Bennett. Professor of English

re you a retired teacher, re you a reused teaching medical technician, nurse, engineer, lawyer, accountant? Do you enjoy working with people? Do you have time on your hands that could be spent helping others succeed in the academic

If you can answer "yes" to one or more of these questions, you might be the perfect candidate to become a Supplemental Instruction (SI) Leader at BCC. SI sponsored jointly by the Learning Assistance Center and a federal grant - has a fifteen-year history at the college, and BCC is proud to be among the more than 800 institutions of higher learning in the United States and several foreign countries that have successful SI programs.

SI originated at the University of Missouri-Kansas City in the

1970's in response to high failure rates for new students in their dental school; in spite of excellent grades and high standardized test scores, these students seemed to lack the thinking, reasoning, and problem-solving skills needed for success in a rigorous academic setting.

SI has since expanded into a world-wide program addressing the needs of students at all levels of ability. SI targets courses that are particularly challenging for students at all institutions (math, science, accounting, history, for example), but which pose even greater risks for the community college population, Many returning adult students have acquired years of practical experience but may lack the skills and theoretical background necessary for success in college courses; younger students may need help focusing on academics

and using their time efficiently. SI addresses these needs within the context of a particular course, and research shows that when study skills are learned along with course content there is a positive impact on student performance and on retention.

The SI Leader - selected jointly by the course instructor and the SI Coordinator(s), and trained and supervised throughout the semester - acts as a model student, attending all classes in a targeted course and holding a minimum of three fifty-minute study sessions per week. The leader commits about ten hours per week to SI for which (s)he receives a salary. Study groups are generally small (ideally, 3-5 students), informal. and fun. The SI Leader facilitates learning by helping attendees to ask questions, solve problems, understand the language of a particular discipline, and think in a manner appropriate to that subject. SI Leaders are often students who have been particularly successful in a course, have good "people" skills, and enjoy working with their peers.

Ongoing research since the 1970's indicates that, on average, students who attend SI receive final course grades one-half to one letter grade higher than nonattendees. Student SI Leaders often put in many more hours than they're paid for, and some even alter their future plans to reflect the love they've acquired in helping others learn.

One former SI Leader who worked with history courses, for example, was planning to attend law school, but because of her rewarding experience in BCC's SI program, she received a degree in education and is now a high school history teacher.

One shortcoming of choosing SI Leaders exclusively from the

student population at a two-year college, however, is that good leaders graduate from BCC and transfer to four-year institutions before we know it. In the past we've had great success with a retired high school science teacher leading study groups in chemistry, and with nurses who have RN degrees from BCC coming back to help students in first and second-year nursing COURSES

As a member of the community, you might like to play a more active role at the college by becoming involved in our SI Program; it's an enjoyable. rewarding, and beneficial way to spend your time. Please contact the program's current cocoordinators, Rebecca Bennett (778-5480) and/or Steven Natale (778-5304), if you have any questions or if you'd like to participate.

## **Around Campus**

### **News Briefs**

• The BCC Nursing Department is responding to the newer focus on wellness and prevention by shifting its program focus from acute care delivery to community based setting health care delivery. Nursing students regularly participate in health screening, assessment, and teaching in area schools and nursing homes; with the Office for Aging; and for the

Southern Tier AIDS Program.
The faculty frequently give presentations nationally on BCC's integration of "community nursing" into its associate degree curriculum.

• At its Fall 1998 Conference, the Middle Atlantic Career Counseling Association (MACCA), elected BCC Counselor **Janet Kuhns** Association President. The group represents approximately 250

## HIRE THE BEST, continued from pg. 7

constituents on an individual basis." Lee, a Union Endicott graduate and life-long Southern Tier resident, is happy and satisfied with her work and is willing to stay with Libous even if it means relocating.

Barber and Waffle are just beginning their political careers. They both got their "feet in the door" by volunteering through internship programs and now serve as Constituent Services Assistants. Ultimately, they act as "middle men" between the senator and his constituents. "Our job is really to communicate to the public, to hear and respond to their needs," remarked Barber, who earned his bachelor's degree at SUNY Alfred. Barber finds his liberal arts background to be a real asset. "It is really crucial in politics, dealing with such a broad base of issues."

Barber's commitment to and enthusiasm for politics stems from what he refers to as his "passion for the area" and inspiration in working for Libous. "It is a great honor to work for him. I would like to follow him wherever he goes. He has helped me develop my own visions of running for office one day. A great thing about politics is that you don't have to be a lawyer, etc. If you work hard you can make your own mark in politics." Enthused with his present career path, his message to recent and upcoming graduates to simply "get clear on what you want. If you can do that you will not spin your wheels — and once you find it, it is so much easier to bear down and attack it."

Waffle also enjoys the daily interaction with the area voters. The Johnson City native has strong community ties, and likes the idea of trying to make a difference. "I really enjoy interacting with the constituents, taking their calls, hearing their concerns, and ultimately trying to solve their problems. Politics is exciting. You are always meeting new people." She recalls meeting Newt Gingrich at an event in Kingston. "He was very down to earth and gracious. I was kind of surprised." She, like Meade, originally got interested in politics while reporting for BCC's student newspaper, *The Fulcrum*. Her aspirations for the future are uncertain. She is finishing her education at night, and plans on learning as much as she can on the job with a "wait-and-see" attitude. "I will take one experience at a time and continue to grow and develop. I'm very happy here and believe in what Senator Libous is doing."

Don Petrie, who serves as Warner's Chief of Staff, also started his political career via an internship with the New York State Senate, in January of 1996. Less then six months later he found himself working in the State Assembly as a legislative assistant. He now spends the majority of his time doing constituent letter-writing and researching new laws to determine how they may affect New York State residents. In interactions with both private and public agencies, most notably the IRS, Petrie finds the most valuable skills he developed as a Marketing and Management major at BCC were his communication skills . After two productive years at Broome, he continued his education at SUNY Oswego. "Not only did I feel really well prepared, but I brought all sixty-two credits with me and started as a true junior."

Obviously, BCC is politically well connected! Our alumni are out there doing well, and watching out for all our interests: yours, mine, and the College's. ■

career counseling and placement professionals from the Mid-Atlantic area. Fellow BCC counselors **Mary McCarthy** and **Joseph Spence** were also elected to the Board of Directors.

- Alice McNeely, coordinator of BCC's Teaching Resource Center, was elected to a two-year term as Northeastern Regional Vice President for the National Council for Staff, Program and Organizational Development. NCSPOD is an affiliate council of the American Association of Community Colleges.
- Bruce Pomeroy, BCC Student Support Services Director, was a participant on the panel, "Disability Service Provision in Postsecondary American Institutions in Relation to Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act and the Americans with Disabilities Act." The panel was part of the Third International Conference on Higher Education and Disability held in Innsbruck, Austria. Eighteen countries were represented at the conference and Bruce was the only panel participant representing a community college.
- Mary Dickson, Peter Ruggieri, and Rebecca Bennett attended the Frontiers in Education Conference in Phoenix, Arizona, and gave a presentation on BCC's integration of first-year Engineering and English courses.

  William Beston also attended, and presented on how he's developed his engineering courses for the Internet.
- Joyce Whalen, Secretary to BCC's Vice President for Administrative and Financial Affairs, has been appointed Director of Public Relations for the Southern Tier Senior Net Organization. The nonprofit group promotes the use of computers for adults over 55. (For information on how to become a volunteer instructor or to take a Senior Net course, call 748-6363).
- The Nursing Department thanks family, friends, and alumni who contributed to the J. Patricia Lee Memorial Fund. Professor Lee's specialty was obstetrics, so contributions were used to buy a Fetone Doppler Monitor (to monitor fetal heart tones) and an advanced child-birth simulator. Both pieces of equipment will help nursing students in assessment activities.



Last fall the Holistic Nursing class couldn't resist holding a class or two outside And...they couldn't resist posing for a picture either.

- Brendan Flynn, Chair of Chemistry and Chemical Engineering Technology, is working with colleagues James Dix and Wayne Jones, professors at Binghamton University, on the development of a website for General Chemistry. The internet-based resource will contain an on-line textbook, animations, videos, simulated labs and interactive problems and is expected to be available by September, 1999. The materials will also be available as a CD-ROM.
- In November, 1998, BCC's **Excellence Center for Entrepre**neurial Excellence (ExCEL) was selected to host the Small Business Channel through CyberCity.Tier.Net. Channel hosts live and work in the Southern Tier. They are selected based on a demonstrated expertise with a particular topic. a desire and ability to help others who share their interests. As a channel host for small business, ExCEL continues to meet its objectives of providing resources. referral, and education to facilitate the establishment. growth, and success of small businesses in the Southern Tier.

The interactive website provides opportunities for the small business person to communicate with ExCEL directly and get questions answered immediately by the ExCEL office on-line. Using the calendar of events. ExCEL can advertise training courses, post business-related articles, and link the client to the ExCEL and BCC homepages. An additional benefit to being the Small Business Channel host is involvement in a communitybased organization interested in helping the local business community. Since BCC is a non-

- profit organization, there is no cost for this website visibility. The website address is http://www.tier.net, then click "channels" from the side-bar menu.
- · BCC has nominated two outstanding seniors to the All-USA Academic Team. Heath Strong and Judy Hawkins will compete against thousands of exceptional students from other community and junior colleges for spots on the twenty-member team. The competition is sponsored by USA Today, the American Association of Community Colleges, and Phi Theta Kappa, the international honor society of two-year colleges. Heath is a "traditional" engineering science student, in that he came to BCC immediately after graduation from Johnson City High School. His interests and activities, however, are anything but traditional. Heath loves astronomy and aspires to be an astronaut. He belongs to the Southern Tier Astronomical Society and volunteers at the Kopernik Observatory. He is also Vice President of Endicott Toastmasters. On campus, Heath serves as co-president of the Student Government Association.

Judy Hawkins is a "nontraditional" student who has attended BCC part-time since 1987, while raising a family and working full-time. Last spring she quit her job and enrolled fulltime to pursue a life-long dream of becoming an English teacher. Judy will attend SUNY Cortland beginning in the Spring 1999 semester. The desire to become a teacher has inspired Judy not only to excel in her coursework, but to take on numerous education-related volunteer activities.

## **BCC Bakers... Start Your Ovens!**

Michelle Perricone, Publications Designer

heesecake. Mere mention of the word can activate a dessert lover's sweet tooth. Add a roomful of dessert lovers...

BCC's Second Annual Diversity Bake-Off, sponsored by the Roberta D. Williams Affirmative Action/Diversity Committee, was held on Tuesday, November 17, 1998.

Now in its second year, the Bake-Off has raised over \$800 for the CHOW pantry, and more recently, the Roberta D. Williams Memorial Scholarship. (Roberta Williams, BCC English professor and Writing Center coordinator, died in April of 1998 after a long illness. She was an active member of the Affirmative Action/Diversity Committee which now bears her name.) This year, \$400 was raised for the Williams fund. Scholarships will be awarded to BCC students who demonstrate a strong interest in civil rights as well as academic achievement.

Early in the fall semester, Bake-Off committee members began organizing. Committee members this year included Irene Byrnes, Liberal Arts and Human Services; Kathleen McKenna, Affirmative

Sandy Balzhiser ponders which deli

Action: Liz Klipsch, Math: and Michelle Perricone, Publications. Joan Shumin, Liberal Arts, kept track of invitations, participants and incoming sweets.

Everyone on campus was invited to participate in the fun as bakers, servers, and/or cleanup crew. In keeping with the theme of diversity, bakers were encouraged to contribute treats which reflected their own ethnic heritage. On the morning of the Bake-Off, hundreds of students, staff, and faculty made their donations and filled containers with goodies for the holidays — or simply noshed happily, wandering in a sugary

daze from table to table, sampling the intoxicating array of treats.

As part of the fun, buyers were encouraged to use provided paper ballots to "grade" each food item they tried.

Categories and winners included breads & muffins (Jim Gormley): pies & fruit desserts (Brenda Artman); brownies, bars & logs (Carolanne Duhmael); cookies (Pat O'Brien); candy (Maruja Lander); cakes and cupcakes (Karen Franklin); and cheesecake (Greg Saraceno).

The key ingredient in each year's Bake-Off success has been the dedication of many faculty, staff and students, and their willingness to support this feel-good event by sampling the sweets, making donations, and casting their ballots for the winning entries. For many, of course, this is hardly a sacrifice!

## - Highlights -



Celebrating a Victory

Last fall BCC won first place in the YMCA Corporate Challenge - Medium Division Run. Here celebrating their victory, and admiring their very tall trophy, are members of the winning team (l. tor.): Keith Cotroneo, VP Academic Affairs; Alan Bennett, Acting Director, Counseling Center; Alan Katz, Controller; John McCauley, Assistant to the VP AFA; Rebecca Bennett, English professor

## Phi Theta Kappa Promotes "America Reads" Challenge

n August 19, 1998, a group of Phi Theta Kappa students from BCC, along with community volunteers, drove a donated U-Haul truck to PS 79 in the Bronx and John Roberts Junior High School in East Harlem. The truck contained 7,500 books collected in the Binghamton area for those schools, both located in poverty-stricken areas with meager educational resources.

"America Reads" is an initiative of the U.S. Department of Education to have everyone reading independently by the end of third grade. Phi Theta Kappa, the International Honor Society for Two-Year Colleges, accepted the challenge as its International Service Project for 1998-2000. Two local Phi Theta Kappa members, Beth Bidwell and Judy Hawkins, are coordinating the project at BCC.

The trip to New York was just

the first of a series of activities to promote childhood literacy. On October 24, Make-a-Difference Day, a second trip to New York delivered several thousand more books and school supplies to the impoverished schools. Also on October 24, Phi Theta Kappa volunteers and members of the Indian Hills Council of Girl Scouts conducted story hours for children at local libraries. Another group of students delivered "Read to Me" bibs to new mothers at three area hospitals

"Reading Buddies" is a more long-term project to promote good reading skills among area children. Developed by Bidwell and Hawkins, with help from staff at Binghamton University and the Binghamton City Schools, the project trains tutors to work with children in local elementary schools. The Reading Buddies



**BCC Student Government President** Heath Strong and program coordinator Judy Hawkins pack up books bound

program provides a minimum of 2-4 hours of individual tutoring per week and is arranged according to each child's needs.

The "America Reads" project is just one of the many ways BCC students are serving the larger community.

## ABBEY, continued from pg. 7

outgrown its facility. He entertained offers to move the business out of the area but after careful consideration Abbey went with his heart and found a site in Binghamton to fit his vision. In 1985 he built a larger, more efficient manufacturing facility with state-of-the-art equipment.

Since then the plant has grown to accommodate increased business and growing staff. Today PreCast has nearly 75 employees. They operate an in-house testing laboratory and use advanced computer technology to facilitate engineering and design.

Abbey is not one to pat himself on the back; he believes much of his good fortune was a result of entering into an industry that was becoming more popular. "Contractors started to figure out that pre-casting was an easier and more economical way to go. The industry really took off.' Abbey's recipe for success is as simple and sturdy as the concrete his company pours. "Nothing comes easy - being successful is a matter of hard work, dedication, commitment and some good sense." When asked how he hoped to be perceived he said, "... as good honest people that

stand by what they do,"

For Abbey, the most challenging aspect of the business is not dealing with customers on the outside, but managing his own people on the inside. "The most difficult task is coordinating everyone's efforts and making sure everyone understands and feels the importance of his or her specific responsibilities." He believes that trust is the most important component in fostering a healthy and empowering business environment. He freely admits it is difficult because, in employee relations, "you can do five things right, but if you do one thing wrong that is what they remember." Recent BCC graduate Kathryn Kenzel, who serves as an Internal Quality Control Technician has been thrilled with her association with Abbey and Binghamton Precast. "He treats us all very well and he is very supportive. There is extensive training and always opportunity for advancement."

Ironically, the once reluctant pupil now puts great stock in continual education for himself. his team of managers, and the entire organization. He has maintained a strong working relationship with BCC by participating in ongoing training

through BCC's Community Education department and by keeping an eye out for BCC Civil Engineering graduates. Abbey's manufacturing complex also has served as the site for many BCC Civil Engineering practicals.

When Kenzel was hired out of BCC, she had to drive to Syracuse to receive her mandatory NY State Certification. Wondering why this could not be offered locally, she and Abbey have been working with BCC's Civil Engineering coordinator Art Haas in the hope that the Associated Concrete Institute (ACI) certification would be offered at BCC in the near future. "There is a need for it!" Kenzel says. An **ACI Concrete Certification** program is now being offered through Community Education.

What is in store for the future? Abbey, a father of three, with strong roots in the community, is not overly ambitious. While he may toy with some small acquisitions here, a new product line there, basically he intends to focus his efforts on improving the core fundamentals of his business - which will undoubtedly continue to win the appreciation and admiration of his customers and employees.

## **BCC Soccer Teams Capture Conference Titles**

Dan Minch. Director of Athletics

The BCC men's and soccer teams combined for The BCC men's and women's 28 wins and captured two Mid-State Athletic Conference Championships to lead the way for BCC athletic teams in '98-99.

The BCC women's soccer team set the pace by posting a 13-3-2 record. The Lady Hornets captured their first Mid-State Athletic Conference Championship in their short four-year history. They advanced to the final four of the NJCAA Regional Tournament before falling to Division I Champlain College. Head Coach Bill Rich was named "Coach of the Year" in both the Mid-State Athletic Conference and in NJCAA Region III, BCC

athletes also garnered honors as Kristin Newberry, Jill Satterthwaite, Jaime Slavetskas and Corinne Bowman each gained All-Region honors. Newberry, Satterthwaite and Slavetskas also made the Mid-State Athletic All-Conference Team.

The BCC men's soccer team posted a 15 win, 4 loss overall record on their way to winning their third Mid-State Athletic Conference Championship. The Hornets advanced to the quarterfinals of the NJCAA Regional Tournament before bowing to Genesee CC. Broome placed two players on the All-Region Team-Paul Battisti and Greg Bimmler. These two along with Brian Battisti, Kyle Pot, Rob Wark and Matt Costello were also named to the All Mid-State Athletic Conference Team.

The BCC men's soccer team has a 60 win, 15 loss, 3-tie record over the past four seasons under Head Coach Al LaBarbera. The Hornets have been ranked as high as number two nationally during these years. They have become a strong force in Region III and will continue to improve and work towards that national tournament goal.

## Volleyball

Engineering Science Program Goes On-Line

The BCC women's volleyball team finished the season with an outstanding 18 win, 11 loss, 2 tie overall record. Under third year Head Coach Dawn Kenyon, the program has improved steadily each year. Coach Kenyon put together a very competitive team



Hillary Hopkins shows the style that kept the women's soccer team on top all season long.

that provided the BCC volleyball audience with exciting play throughout the campaign. The BCC volleyballers finished in the runner-up spot at the Mid-State Athletic Conference Championship. They advanced to the NJCAA Regional Tournament but were defeated by Regional Champion Jamestown CC. Broome athletes Rachel Sailar and Corey Murray were named to the All Region Team. These two, along with Shannon Darrow, garnered All Mid-State Athletic Conference honors. Coach Kenyon is looking forward to next year and is in the process of recruiting to continue improving the BCC program.

### Who takes ASL classes? ASL courses are designed for

high school students looking for a head start on college, or trying to make themselves more attractive to the colleges of their choice; employees seeking promotion; people who are too busy or live too far away to commute to the BCC campus: and people whose personal schedules conflict with the College's class schedules.

## **On-Line this Summer:**

- EGR-281 Mechanics Statics
- · EGR-282 Mechanics/Dynamics
- EGR-283 Strength of Materials
- PHS-114 Physical Science -Meteorology
- PSY-210 Developmental Psychology

For information about the Engineering courses, call 607 778-5114.

For on-line course registration, call the BCC Registrar's Office at 607 778-5027,

or visit our website:

<www.sunybroome.edu >. Or write to:

Engineering Science/Physics/ Physical Science Department Broome Community College P.O. Box 1017 Binghamton NY 13902

## William Beston, Chair, Engineering Science/Physics/

Physical Science

The Engineering Science curriculum at BCC prepares students for transfer into junior level upper division courses at four-year engineering schools across the country. Students from BCC have successful transfer records at institutions such as RPI, Clarkson, RIT, SUNY Binghamton, Syracuse, VPI, Notre Dame, and others. A survey of these institutions indicated that 85 % of these students maintain or improve the GPA that they had achieved at BCC. The annual statewide Two-Year Engineering Science Association design competition has seen BCC students place 1st or 2nd since its inception in 1990. This past year, BCC engineering students placed 2nd in both the Paper and Model American Society for Engineering Education National Engineering Design Competition for freshmen. It doesn't sound like change is needed here, but change is on the way.

The Engineering Science Department's vision is to be a recognized leader in creating a new engineering education culture that is responsive to technological changes and societal needs, using learning communities as its delivery base. The department studied implementation of its entire curriculum in the "asynchronous learning" mode while participating in the National Science Foundation-sponsored Beta Coalition during the 1997-98 academic year.

### What is an ASL course?

Asynchronous Learning -"ASL" - courses are classes that can be taken at any time and in any place. In an on-line college course, the instructor and students are connected to one another through a computer network. Using the Internet. students receive instruction. submit assignments, ask questions of fellow students and instructors, discuss issues, work on group assignments, and actively participate in laboratory experiences: all from home, office, or any other place with access to the Internet. This type of course provides a high level of instruction and a great deal of personal attention from the instructor

As a result of the NSF study, BCC offered five required degree courses and one elective course. in the Fall 1998 semester, using the SUNY Learning Network (SLN) as its delivery system. The five engineering courses were Engineering Statics, Introduction to Microprocessors, Calculus-based Physics I and II. and Calculus I. Each of these courses offers a significant challenge in the conversion to ASL mode. The courses use specific notation that is not usually supported by traditional word processors, involve sophisticated threedimensional applications or computer programming codes. and present "problem solving" versus discussion and paperoriented coursework. In addition, the Physics and Microprocessor courses are laboratory courses, a component that has not usually been addressed within ASL course formats.

We gave careful consideration to the issue of outcomes so that the competencies attained from the traditional coursework would be equivalent in the ASL courses (teamwork, group assignments, and design projects). The SUNY Learning Network provided technical support for the delivery of the ASL courses, as well as providing financial assistance for the development of the course templates and subject modules. We are completing plans to deliver asynchronous versions of Engineering Dynamics, Engineering Design II, Strength of Materials, Electrical Circuits, and Calculus II in the spring of 1999. We anticipate that the entire curriculum will be available in ASL format by the Fall Semester

## Cross-Country

On the cross-country scene. BCC hosted its first Mid-State Athletic Conference Championship Meet and the BCC women's team captured the title. It was Coach Tom Carter's first Mid-State Championship and he was also named "Women's Coach of the Year." The Lady Hornets were led by All-American Alecia Brown, who returned after a serious car accident to anchor the team. Brown was named to the All-Conference and All-Region teams as well as the NJCAA "All-American Team." On the men's side, Sasa Lazarevic set a school record of 29:46 on the BCC course and was named to the All-Conference Team.

The BCC men's golf team won the Mohawk Valley Invitational and came away with the runner's up trophy in the Mid-State Athletic Conference Championship. Broome hosted the NJCAA Regional Tournament at Endwell Greens. As a team, the Hornets finished in fourth place, but Derek Aptt qualified for the NJCAA National Tournament.

Overall the fall sports season provided plenty of exciting moments for BCC fans!

## SGA Gets Political

David Maslar, Student Activities Director

ast fall, BCC's Student Government Association learned about the power of the pen - and of the phone - and how to apply both to the political arena.

It was a 9.6 million-dollar lesson in gathering more than one thousand names on a petition to support Broome County funding for the Student Center Expansion Project. (See article page 1)

Tables were set up in high-traffic building lobbies, for gathering signatures; posters and handouts were created to distribute information. And, since the project included an ice rink along with the additional space for Student Activities and the BCC Bookstore, the SGA solicited help from the BCC Ice Hockey Team to staff tables and answer questions. However, while the two groups working together found the tables effective for gathering a good number of signatures, they knew they were not reaching all the students.

"We couldn't just stand there and wait for the students to approach us, even if we asked them to sign as they walked by," says Paul Battisti, SGA Student Trustee and one of the project organizers. "We had to go to where the students were."

That meant carrying the petitions to their classes and asking for signatures during those minutes before the coursework started. It meant going into the lounges in smaller buildings and approaching groups of students. And, on nice days, it meant going outside to picnic tables and benches to collect signatures.

Battisti delivered eleven hundred student signatures to the Finance Committee of the Broome County Legislature. In his statement, the Student Trustee told the legislators that the project would not only give BCC "the kind of Student Center that other colleges have," but that it was "depressing to see that big expensive jail, looking down on us — which, my friends in the Criminal Justice program tell me, has more lounge space than the college has." The result: a unanimous recommendation by the Finance Committee for full funding.

The students' next step was to inform the full Legislature as to the

wishes of their constituencies, and gather their support. That meant going to the phones. Each of the sixteen SGA Executive Officers and Senators called to confirm support from their own legislator, and then began on the whole listing. Then it was back to the BCC students as a whole. The SGA once again set up tables, this time requesting that students call their legislators, providing lists of names and phone numbers, as well as sample messages the students could leave. If students weren't aware of their legislative districts, the SGA provided district maps as well.

The calls went in and the vote was cast: a unanimous decision to support the Finance Committee's recommendation.

The Student Government is deservedly proud of its work, especially since the building will be finished well after their own graduations. But, according to Nate Anthony, SGA Vice President for Financial Concerns, "It was a great experience. We did it for the students who will follow us." And, when asked if he would be willing to take on other projects, Anthony's reply was, "Certainly! What's next?" ■

## EXPANSION, cont. from pg. 1 "Union" functions to the campus

not allow for student access to texts and has no storage room. In fact, for many years, the bookstore has been using two container sheds alongside the Student Center to house their inventory.

Student recreational space was once available in The Union, a prefabricated steel building at the heart of the campus. Prior to construction of the Applied Technology Building on that site in the mid 1980's, The Union was moved to the edge of the main student parking lot, and soon the building was in use for other than recreational purposes. Currently, it houses the BC Center (day care services). "The Union" - student recreation and lounge space —then began years of somewhat nomadic life, finding space that was usually inappropriate, and always shortlived. Most years there were no recreational spaces (including club offices, lounge space, and table/video games). The new project will finally restore

in the location that makes the greatest sense: the Student Center Ice Rink.

The idea of locating an ice rink on the BCC campus goes back to 1974, when then-President Sigmund Smith wrote to County Executive Edwin Crawford and promoted the idea.

Little was done for the next two decades until the college included the idea in its 1994 Master

David Ligeikis, Past President of the Southern Tier Hockey Association, became an immediate supporter of the planned new rink. His group of hundreds of youth and adult hockey enthusiasts need more ice than the area currently has, to support their expanding membership. And locating such a rink on a campus where parking already exists seemed ideal.

The college argument has been that a new rink would support the existing varsity hockey program, give the college an arena for various assembly programs, and provide a high-

profile facility that would aid the college in its various marketing activities. And, by renting the space to the STHA and other hockey and skating organizations, the college expects the building to generate enough revenue to pay its own maintenance expenses.

The ice rink is currently planned for the space now occupied by tennis courts which are in need of rehabilitation. New courts will be built elsewhere on campus.

### **Existing Building**

The Student Center Expansion and Renovation Project will also include improvements to the existing building: installation of a new roof, connection of the West Gym and Baldwin Gym lobbies. and improvements to the kitchen, serving area, and cafeteria.

Architectural and engineering work for the project has already begun. It is hoped that at least the ice rink wing will be completed in the summer of 2000 in time for the NY Empire State Games hockey competition.

### · Highlights ·



## We Get Help from the Best

BCC Alumna Janet Hertzog ('78) of Raytheon shares ideas at a Corporate Advisory Council meeting. BCC's Corporate Service Program depends on professionals in the community for guidance in planning new training programs.

The forty-person Corporate Advisory Council counts several other BCC alumni as well, including David DeSantis ('77), Lockheed Martin; Kim Klock ('87), UHSH; Vickie Maxon ('68), IBM; Elaine Miller ('79), City of Binghamton; Bob Moppert ('71), ESDC; Lou Santoni ('69), The Broome Chamber; Bob Watts ('66), Consultant; Bill Welker ('92), AM&T

In addition, area companies such as Universal Instruments, Maines Paper and Foods, Crowley Foods, Children's Home of Wyoming Conference, Garbade Construction, The Raymond Corporation, Upstate Medicare, Harris Tool, NYSEG, and many others participate in quarterly Council meetings.



Giving of the Toys III

For the third annual "Giving of the Toys" event, sponsored by the Student Government Association, the campus community donated two van loads of Toys for Tots. Santa Claus was present (of coursel) to accept all donations



From One Notable to Another

County Executive Jeffrey Kraham, on a recent campus visit, stops for a chat with Stinger, the BCC mascot